Docket No. 251305/0028 SBP:AEW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: David Zhang, et al.

Group Art Unit: 1634

Application No.: 09/978,261

Examiner: Frank Lu

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For: NUCLEIC ACID AMPLIFICATION METHODS

Date: January 25, 2007

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO JULY 28, 2006 OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

Applicants respectfully submit this response to the Office Action of the United States Patent and Trademark Office mailed on July 28, 2006. A response to the Office Action was due on October 28, 2006. Applicants hereby petition for a three month extension of time. Accordingly, this Response is timely filed. Applicants respectfully request consideration and entry of the following revisions and remarks.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.